



Will M. Maupin and Seven of the Many Reasons why he wants to be nominated and elected Railway Commissioner of Nebraska.

CURRENT COMMENT

It is with regret that we notice the esteemed Star of our own city repeating a mistake so often made by our eminent statesmen, to-wit, that our Declaration of Independence asserts that "all men are created free and equal." Of course the Declaration of Independence says nothing of the kind. It merely says that "all men are created equal and endowed with certain unalienable rights." All men are not created "free."

The house of representatives has passed the Esch bill prohibiting the manufacture of phosphorus matches of a certain kind. The senate should pass the bill without division and President Taft should sign it without delay. The manufacture of this brand of match annually dooms scores of helpless workers to death from the dread disease known as "phossy jaw," which is even more loathsome than leprosy, though not infectious. The prohibition, which is by excessive taxation, will work no hardships, for matches equally good or better can be manufactured and sold just as cheaply, but which do not contain the poison that claims its scores of victims every year.

Congressman Campbell of Kansas may be a good politician. He may even be a statesman. We doubt if he is either. Certainly he does not know his Bible, and certainly if he has read it at all it is without evidencing gray matter enough to understand what he reads. Writing to Mr. Roosevelt in opposition to the initiative and referendum, Campbell cites the trial of Christ before Pilate and offers the argument that "Pilate acquitted Christ; an appeal was taken from Pilate to the people, and the Saviour was crucified." Of course Campbell of Kansas may know more about this particular case than Matthew, Mark, and John, but heretofore we have been inclined to look upon the three disciples as somewhat of an authority. They say that Pilate "delivered Christ to be crucified," but of course Campbell of Kansas may have access to information denied to Matthew, Mark and John.

If we understand the referendum at all it is to leave the decision of public questions to the people—to the common people, if you please. Now it is recorded by the Biblical writers that the "common people heard Him (Christ) gladly," but, as we before remarked, Campbell of Kansas may

have means of information withheld from the men who wrote the first four books of the New Testament. Heretofore we have rather prided ourselves upon having something more than an average knowledge of the Bible, but if Campbell of Kansas is right we must proceed instant to unlearn all we have heretofore acquired in the way of Biblical knowledge. It has been our impression that the crucifixion of Christ was not due to a referendum—a reference to the people—but due to a packed caucus.

It is a moral certainty, at least as much so as anything can be, that this April primary experience is going to lead to a very radical amendment of our primary laws. By the time the average voter on Friday next wrestles with that six feet of intricate ballot he will be in a frame of mind to indulge in a bit of emphatic language and insist upon a reform.

What influence has been brought to bear upon Senator Jones of Washington to cause him to so suddenly and mysteriously change his mind upon the Lorimer case? At the first investigation of Lorimer Senator Jones spoke against Lorimer, voted him guilty and declared in a loud voice his sincere belief in Lorimer's guilt. But the first investigation was not conclusive and another was held. So a sub-committee was selected to investigate all over again—two democrats and two republicans who had either voted for Lorimer or had not voted at all. Senator Jones was appointed as a republican supposed to be against Lorimer. And now Senator Jones turns up with his vote every time in Lorimer's favor. What evidence—if it was "evidence"—has been brought to light to convince Jones of Washington that Lorimer is a sadly abused and an innocent man? The voters of Washington have a right to know.

Mr. Woodrough of Omaha, who has charge of the Wilson campaign in this state, added nothing whatsoever to his reputation as a political manager, certainly nothing to his reputation for being a gentleman, by challenging Governor Harmon to debate with ex-Congressman Lentz in Omaha on the occasion of Governor Harmon's visit to the Nebraska metropolis. It was not only ungentlemanly, but it was almighty poor politics.

We recall without any mental effort whatsoever how angry Mr. Bryan's supporters used to become because every addled ass in the country who wanted to gain a little cheap notoriety used to challenge Mr. Bryan to debate. Of course Mr. Bryan was too big a man to even notice these challenges, just as Governor Harmon is too big. We rejoice that Governor Harmon came to Nebraska because it may serve to clear the atmosphere above the democratic camp. Certainly he has as much right to speak in Nebraska as either Roosevelt, Taft or La Follette, and surely he has the right to appear in Nebraska to answer the serious charges preferred by Mr. Bryan while the latter is in the governor's own state reiterating those charges. In our humble opinion such tactics as those used by Woodrough merely plays into the hands of the Harmon supporters.

Does any democrat in Nebraska imagine for a minute that a democrat like Tom Smith would disregard the instructions of the voters if elected delegate to the Baltimore convention, or entertain the suspicion that Tom Smith would not be as true as steel, no matter whether his personal choice was or was not the choice of the convention? And what is true of Tom Smith is equally true of Fred Volp. These gentlemen are said to be Harmon supporters, and that is their blessed privilege. We opine that we know them well enough to assert with confidence that they will be just as enthusiastic Clark men, or Wilson men, if either of those eminent gentlemen lands the nomination. Isn't it a fact that every man who is a candidate for delegate-at-large on the democratic ticket may be trusted to carry out the will of the democratic voters as expressed at the primaries—or resign if he feels as if he can not do so in good conscience?

One of the best things Mr. Bryan has said of late is based upon the incident of a New York butcher being fined for inserting a pound slug of lead into every turkey he sold. "If the same law," remarks Mr. Bryan, "were applied to Mr. Roosevelt's speeches he could be sent up for life for inserting chunks of the democratic platform." There is some class to that.

ARTHUR W. RICHARDSON.

Elsewhere in this issue appears the announcement of Mr. Richardson's candidacy for the republican nomination for representative from Lancaster county. That announcement clearly sets forth what Mr. Richardson stands for. He is Nebraska born, Nebraska reared and Nebraska educated. He was admitted to the practice of law in 1894, and has served as court reporter

in Lancaster county. Mr. Richardson is a man of intense earnestness and splendid character. He may always be depended upon to be found fighting for those reforms that are of most interest to the people, and he would be an influential representative.

HE SECURES RESULTS.

John H. Mockett, jr., is a candidate for the republican nomination for representative from Lancaster county. Mr. Mockett is not a new hand at the legislative game, having served the people in that capacity before. He is one of the advanced progressives of the republican party, and his tireless energy has secured several reforms. He introduced and secured the passage of the amendment to the Lincoln charter permitting this city to own and operate its own electric lighting plant, and he also took a leading part in securing the submission of the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution. Mr. Mockett is president of the Direct Legislation League and has given to that cause a goodly share of his time and attention for a year or two. There is never any trouble in locating just where John H. Mockett, jr., stands on any public question. Nor is there any denying his ability to push the reforms he advocates. His ability and his experience in the legislature mark him as a good man to serve the people.

A GOOD OFFICIAL.

They say that "one good term deserves another," and if this is true the supporters of Walter A. George, present state treasurer and candidate for re-nomination at the hands of the republicans, have a good basis for insisting that Mr. George is the man. Mr. George assumed the office of state treasurer just at a time when a change was made in the method of handling the state's investments, and his thorough knowledge of the banking and investment business has stood the state in good stead. He engaged in the banking business at Broken Bow for a number of years, and achieved marked success and the reputation of being a safe, conservative banker. He has reduced the work of the office to clock-like precision, and at any moment his books are ready for inspection. The system in vogue may be best understood by considering the amount of work accomplished by so small a force as the treasurer has at his command.

During a single year the office has handled an average of 2,688 warrants a month, paying out an average of \$12,651.27 per day. During the course of a year the state treasurer handles almost \$4,000,000. Mr. George gives the duties of the office his entire time and attention, and he knows at all times just what is going on. His knowledge of the investment business has enabled him to profit the state in large sums in the matter of investing the permanent school funds, now amounting to upwards of \$9,000,000. Mr. George is not making an active campaign for re-nomination. He has contented himself with merely announcing his candidacy and pointing to the record of efficient services rendered during the past twenty months.

THIS FROM THE OLD HOME.

The following, copied from a Nebraska exchange, concerns a former Oregon school boy, and one of the Sentinel's typos, who removed to Nebraska some years ago, and has been more or less mixed up in matters political, social and religious in that state ever since:

"Will M. Maupin, of Lincoln, announces that he is a candidate for railroad commissioner, and in doing so comes nearer telling the truth about it than most candidates do. He says that he is a candidate of his own volition; that he has not been urged by his friends; that the salary of \$3,000 a year looks good to him; that he is making no personal sacrifice in going after the job; he claims to have no exceptional qualifications for the office, only a modicum of common sense, and the firm conviction that any man should expect to work hard and give his undivided effort to earn \$250 a month. His announcement will strike the average voter as being nearer the truth than the usual grandstand proclamation of those seeking an office."

We ain't no scratcher—but, if he was over in the good, old land of the "Missouri banana" and wanted to be railroad commissioner, secretary of state, or what not, darned if we wouldn't give him a boost, and we are of the opinion there are many down this way that would follow suit. The Sentinel sincerely hopes that Will will get there by a handsome majority. He is every way deserving and thoroughly competent for the job.—Oregon, Mo., Sentinel, Rep.

A STRONG MAN.

It is always a pleasure to Will Maupin's Weekly to be given an opportunity to speak a good word for such a man as George F. Quick. Mr. Quick is one of the democratic candidates for the nomination as representative from Lancaster county. The editor of this newspaper has not only known George Quick for years, but for a goodly part of that time has been closely associated with him in affairs of mutual interest. They don't build squarer men than Quick. He possesses a fund of common sense that would be of good service to the people, and his rugged honesty and sincerity of purpose is known to all who have come in contact with him. Mr. Quick has lived in Lincoln more than a quarter of a century. He is a carpenter by trade, a member of the union of his craft and now represents it in the Central Labor Union. He has also represented it in the Building Trades Council, as well as having served it as president and secretary. Mr. Quick is an ardent advocate of municipal ownership of public utilities, and possesses the courage and ability to make a strong fight for the inauguration of that system. You may say all the good things about George Quick you are a mind to, and Will Maupin's Weekly will endorse them. And this is going a lot further for Quick than we usually go when speaking of candidates for political office.

LIBERTY FLOUR

From Selected Nebraska Wheat—Best Wheat in the World

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by
the
Oven's
Test



A
Nebraska
Product
Worthy of
Nebraska

H. O. Barber & Sons, Lincoln